

Christian Radio stations in my area, specifically WordFM and two KLove rebroadcasts are of great value to me, my family members and numerous others in the community.

I enjoy the Christian beliefs and testimony as well as the commercial free programming that KLove and WordFM provide the community. Whenever I'm feeling down it is nice to be able to turn the radio on and know that I can find a Christian radio station with a positive word.

From my knowledge the 04-233 proceeding could potentially hurt those stations in three key areas that I would like to address below:

Requiring Community Advisory Boards could limit and hinder the free speech allowed on radio stations of all kinds, especially Christian stations. Personally I feel that if an individual does not wish to hear certain things he or she simply needs to refrain from listening to those specific outlets, this should apply to all forms of media. I don't like rap music, I therefore choose to avoid watching or listening to media outlets that play such content, such as a local radio station or the Black Entertainment Television station. I don't feel my personal tastes should allow me to go on a board and attempt to sway the radio station from playing the content or cause the cable company to stop carrying the station. I am not forced to consume their content; therefore they should not be forced to cater to my wishes.

Requiring additional staffing makes little sense to me as I don't see a need. Satellite radio stations generally have one broadcast station and listeners all over the nation, so their staffing is low, but their coverage and potential listener base is large. Traditional radio technology does not support a national coverage area with a single station so national coverage needs to be handled by numerous local stations. Forcing local repeater stations to provide additional staffing only raises costs without proper reasoning, hurting the listener by reducing the number of stations.

Giving priority to Low Power FM stations over existing translator stations certainly sounds good on paper and would likely have a positive effect on power consumption, but at what cost? If repeater stations are all forced to upgrade or be shutdown by a specific date, many stations could not afford the costs associated with upgrading and would therefore have to shut down. This shutdown would negatively affect the number of stations thus lowering the number of listeners, fees and revenue generated. A phased approach to moving to Low Power FM stations could be proposed and enacted that would allow stations more time, flexibility and money to comply.